

Final recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Huntingdonshire District Council

Electoral review

November 2016

Translations and other formats

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Summary

Who we are and what we do

1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body set up by Parliament. We are not part of government or any political party. We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

2 Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

Electoral review

3 An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority. A local authority's electoral arrangements decide:

- How many councillors are needed
- How many wards or electoral divisions should there be, where are their boundaries and what should they be called
- How many councillors should represent each ward or division

Why Huntingdonshire?

4 We are conducting a review of Huntingdonshire as the value of each vote in district council elections varies depending on where you live in Huntingdonshire. Some councillors currently represent many more or fewer voters than others. This is 'electoral inequality'. Our aim is to create 'electoral equality', where votes are as equal as possible, ideally within 10% of being exactly equal.

Electoral review Our proposals for Huntingdonshire

- Huntingdonshire should be represented by 52 councillors, the same number as there are now.
- The area should have 26 wards, the same as now.
- The boundaries of 25 wards should change; one ward (Buckden) will stay the same.

5 **We have now finalised our recommendations for electoral arrangements for Huntingdonshire.**

What is the Local Government Boundary Commission for England?

6 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament.¹

7 The members of the Commission are:

- Professor Colin Mellors (Chair)
- Dr Peter Knight CBE, DL
- Alison Lowton
- Peter Maddison QPM
- Sir Tony Redmond
- Professor Paul Wiles CB

- Chief Executive: Jolyon Jackson CBE

¹ Under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

1 Introduction

8 This electoral review is being carried out to ensure that:

- The wards in Huntingdonshire are in the best possible places to help the Council carry out its responsibilities effectively.
- The number of voters represented by each councillor is approximately the same across the district.

What is an electoral review?

9 Our three main considerations are to:

- Improve electoral equality by equalising the number of electors each councillor represents
- Reflect community identity
- Provide for effective and convenient local government

10 Our task is to strike the best balance between them when making our recommendations. Our powers, as well as the guidance we have provided for electoral reviews and further information on the review process, can be found on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Consultation

11 We wrote to the Council to ask its views on the appropriate number of councillors for Huntingdonshire. We then held two periods of consultation on warding patterns for the district. The submissions received during consultation informed our draft and final recommendations.

This review is being conducted as follows:

Stage starts	Description
15 December 2015	Number of councillors decided
26 January 2016	Start of consultation seeking views on new wards
4 April 2016	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming draft recommendations
28 June 2016	Publication of draft recommendations, start of second consultation
22 August 2016	End of consultation; we begin analysing submissions and forming final recommendations
8 November 2016	Publication of final recommendations

How will the recommendations affect you?

12 The recommendations will determine how many councillors will serve on the Council. They will also decide which ward you vote in and which other communities are in that ward. Your ward name may also change.

2 Analysis and final recommendations

13 Legislation² states that our recommendations should not be based only on how many electors³ there are now, but also on how many there are likely to be in the five years after the publication of our final recommendations. We must also try to recommend strong, clearly identifiable boundaries for our wards.

14 In reality, we are unlikely to be able to create wards with exactly the same number of electors in each; we have to be flexible. However, we try to keep the number of electors represented by each councillor as close to the average for the council as possible.

15 We work out the average number of electors per councillor for each individual local authority by dividing the electorate by the number of councillors, as shown on the table below.

	2015	2021
Electorate of Huntingdonshire	130,757	152,420
Number of councillors	52	52
Average number of electors per councillor	2,515	2,931

16 When the number of electors per councillor in a ward is within 10% of the average for the authority, we refer to the ward as having 'electoral equality'. All of our new wards for Huntingdonshire will have electoral equality by 2021.

17 Our recommendations cannot affect the external boundaries of the district or result in changes to postcodes or local taxes. They do not take into account parliamentary constituency boundaries. We have seen no evidence to suggest that our recommendations will have an effect on house prices or car and house insurance premiums and we are not able to take into account any representations which are based on these issues.

Submissions received

18 See Appendix C for details of submissions received. All submissions may be viewed at our offices and on our website at www.lgbce.org.uk

Electorate figures

19 The Council submitted electorate forecasts for 2021, a period five years on from the scheduled publication of our final recommendations in 2016. These forecasts were broken down to polling district levels and predicted an increase in the electorate of around 17% to 2021.

² Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

³ Electors refers to the number of people registered to vote, not the whole adult population.

20 During the consultation on the draft recommendations we received comments from two district councillors about the electorate forecasts for St Neots, which followed on from their submissions in relation to our recently completed review of Cambridgeshire County Council. Our guidance makes clear that the forecasts provided and agreed at the beginning of a review are those that will be used as the base forecast throughout. To do otherwise and make forecasting changes as developments start, are delayed or even abandoned would make it impossible to draw reliable boundaries. This is why we work with local authorities to get the best possible forecast at the outset. While we acknowledge the uncertainty associated with future development sites in the St Neots area, and particularly in St Neots East ward, the area is still forecast to experience significant housing growth beyond 2021. It is likely that the electoral variance for St Neots East ward will continue to improve over a longer period of time.

21 Having carefully considered all the evidence received, we have decided that it would be inappropriate to move away from the original electorate forecasts as supplied to us and agreed at the start of this review. Whilst recognising that there might be greater variance in parts of St Neots than might normally be the case in the short- to medium-term, we are content that the forecasts remain a broadly accurate reflection of the likely electorate in 2021.

Number of councillors

22 Huntingdonshire District Council currently has 52 councillors. We have looked at evidence provided by the Council and have concluded that keeping this number the same will ensure the Council can carry out its roles and responsibilities effectively.

23 We therefore invited proposals for new patterns of wards that would be represented by 52 councillors – for example, 52 one-councillor wards or a mixture of one-, two- and three-councillor wards.

24 We received one submission about the number of councillors in response to our consultation on warding patterns from a member of the public who argued the council size should be increased by three. Having considered that alongside the evidence from the Council, we consider that the Council's argument is significantly more persuasive. We therefore based our draft recommendations on a 52-member council.

25 We received no further submissions about the number of councillors in response to consultation on our draft recommendations so have therefore maintained 52 councillors for our final recommendations.

Ward boundaries consultation

26 We received 13 submissions in response to our consultation on ward boundaries including one for the whole district from Huntingdonshire District Council. Other submissions provided localised comments relating to warding arrangements in particular areas of the district.

27 The district-wide scheme provided a mixed-pattern of 10 single-member wards, nine two-member wards and eight three-member wards for the district. Having

carefully considered the proposals received, we were of the view that the proposed pattern of wards largely resulted in good levels of electoral equality in most areas of the district and generally used clearly identifiable boundaries.

28 Our draft recommendations were for eight single-member, 10 two-member and eight three-member wards. We considered that our draft recommendations would provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we have received such evidence during consultation. We also visited the area in order to look at the various different proposals on the ground. This tour of Huntingdonshire helped us to decide between the different boundaries proposed.

Draft recommendations consultation

29 We received 35 submissions during consultation on our draft recommendations from parish councils, district councillors and local residents relating to specific parts of the district. We had one district-wide submission from Huntingdonshire District Council which expressed support for all of our draft recommendations. One submission from a local resident was unrelated to the review. We received one submission relating to the name of our proposed St Neots Priory Park ward as it did not include a reference to Little Paxton.

30 While we received some powerful representations from the south and south-eastern parts of the district, to have made the changes proposed would have led to substantial electoral inequality in many wards. For that reason, apart from changing the name of the proposed St Neots Priory Park ward our final recommendations are identical to our draft recommendations.

Final recommendations

31 Pages 8–20 detail our final recommendations for each area of Huntingdonshire. They set out how the proposed warding arrangements reflect the three statutory⁴ criteria of

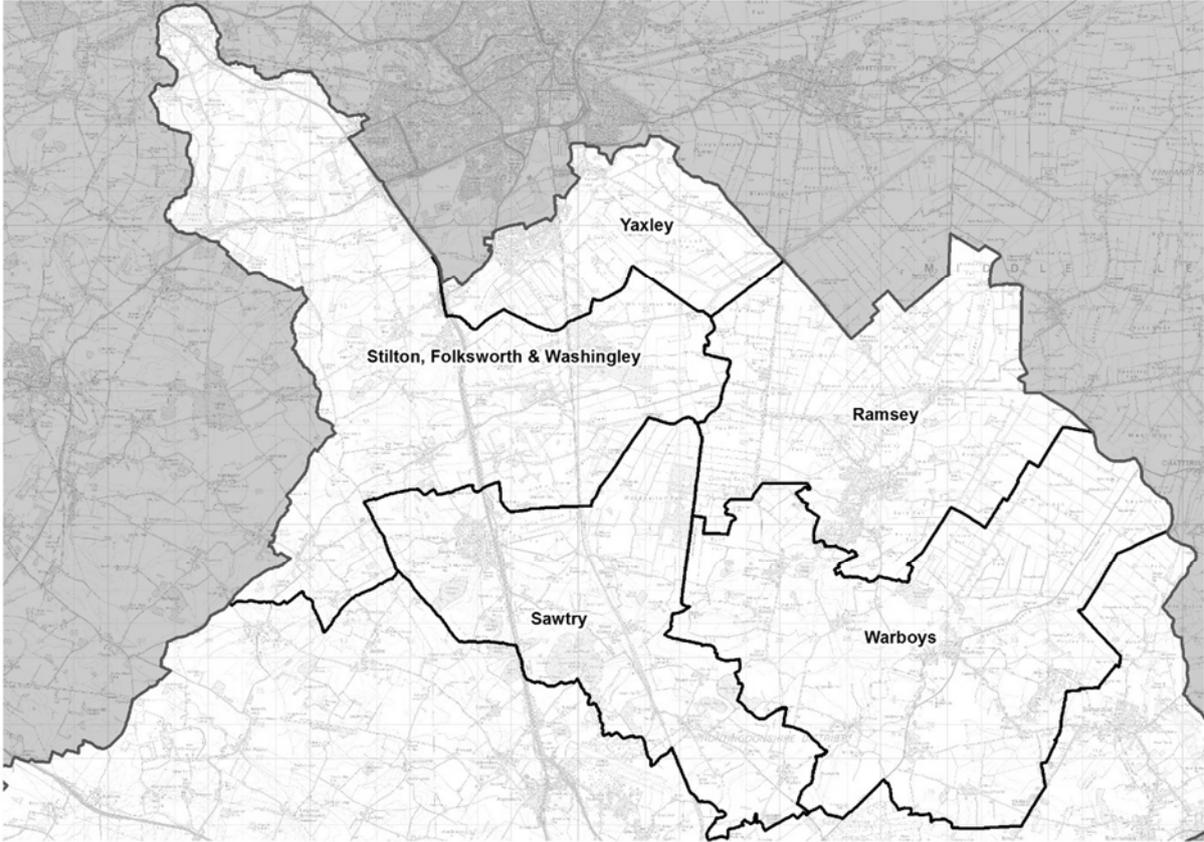
- Equality of representation
- Reflecting community interests and identities
- Providing for effective and convenient local government

32 Our final recommendations are for eight single-member, 10 two-member and eight three-member wards. We consider that our final recommendations will provide for good electoral equality while reflecting community identities and interests where we have received such evidence during consultation.

33 A summary of our proposed new wards is set out in the table on page 21 and on the large map accompanying this report.

⁴ Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

North Huntingdonshire



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021
Ramsey	3	1%
Sawtry	2	-7%
Stilton, Folksworth & Washingley	2	-7%
Warboys	2	3%
Yaxley	3	2%

Ramsey

34 We received one submission objecting to the combination of Bury and Ramsey parishes but in the absence of stronger evidence we propose confirming our draft recommendation as final.

Sawtry

35 As the only submission received for this area was from Huntingdonshire District Council in support of the draft recommendations we propose that the draft recommendations for this area should be confirmed as final without amendment.

Stilton, Folksworth & Washingley

36 We received two submissions in relation to this ward. Holme Parish Council objected to the proposed Stilton, Folksworth & Washingley ward due to its size and the resulting difficulty councillors would have representing their constituents. Stilton Parish Council supported our proposal to include them in a ward with Folksworth. While we accept that this is a relatively large rural area we do not feel that it is so large as to prevent councillors from representing the area and consider it will ensure effective and convenient local government. For that reason, we propose confirming our draft recommendation as final.

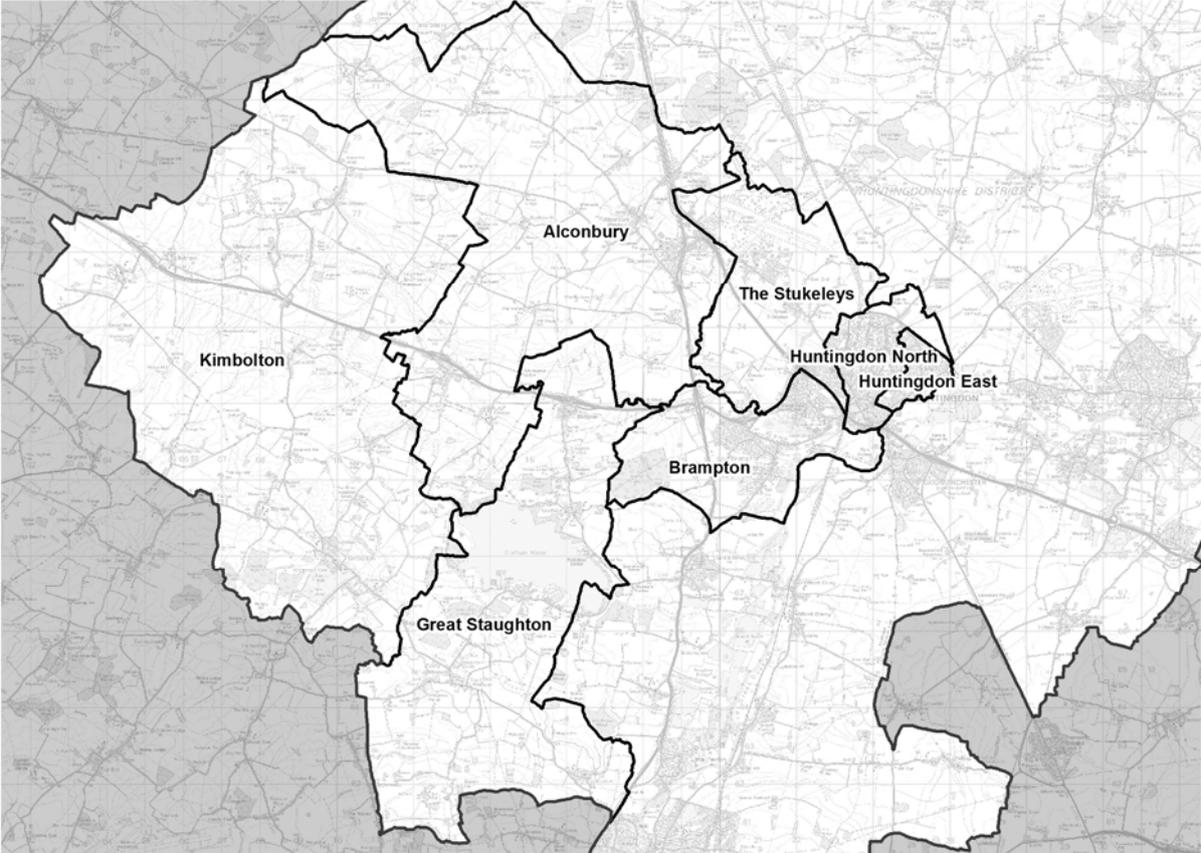
Warboys

37 As the only submissions received for this area were from Warboys Parish Council and Huntingdonshire District Council and both were in support of the draft recommendation, we propose that the draft recommendations for this area should be confirmed as final without amendment.

Yaxley

38 As the only submission received for this area was from Huntingdonshire District Council in support of the draft recommendations we propose that the draft recommendations for this area should be confirmed as final without amendment.

Huntingdon and west Huntingdonshire



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021
Alconbury	1	0%
Brampton	2	3%
Great Staughton	1	-7%
Huntingdon East	2	-1%
Huntingdon North	3	-5%
Kimbolton	1	-8%
The Stukeleys	3	4%

Alconbury, Great Staughton and Kimbolton

39 We received a submission from Great Staughton Parish Council arguing that the parish's natural ties were with Kimbolton and Tilbrook and not with Grafham or Ellington. We acknowledge the concerns raised in this submission and carefully considered alternative warding patterns for the area. However, we are constrained in our ability to amend the proposed wards to the east of Great Staughton (Buckden and St Neots Priory Park & Little Paxton) due to submissions from those two wards asking to be combined with areas other than Great Staughton. While simply merging the proposed Alconbury, Great Staughton and Kimbolton wards would be satisfactory in terms of electoral equality, the large geographical extent of the ward would fail our criterion relating to effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose to make no changes to our draft recommendations.

Brampton

40 We received one submission objecting to the inclusion of the Hinchingsbrooke Park area of Huntingdon in this ward on the grounds that electors in Hinchingsbrooke Park were being placed with a parish with which they had very little in common and would be confused by being in separate electoral areas for parish, district and county elections. Due to the lack of evidence supplied in support of this submission and the absence of a viable alternative pattern of wards that meets our statutory criteria, we propose that the draft recommendations for this area should be confirmed as final without amendment.

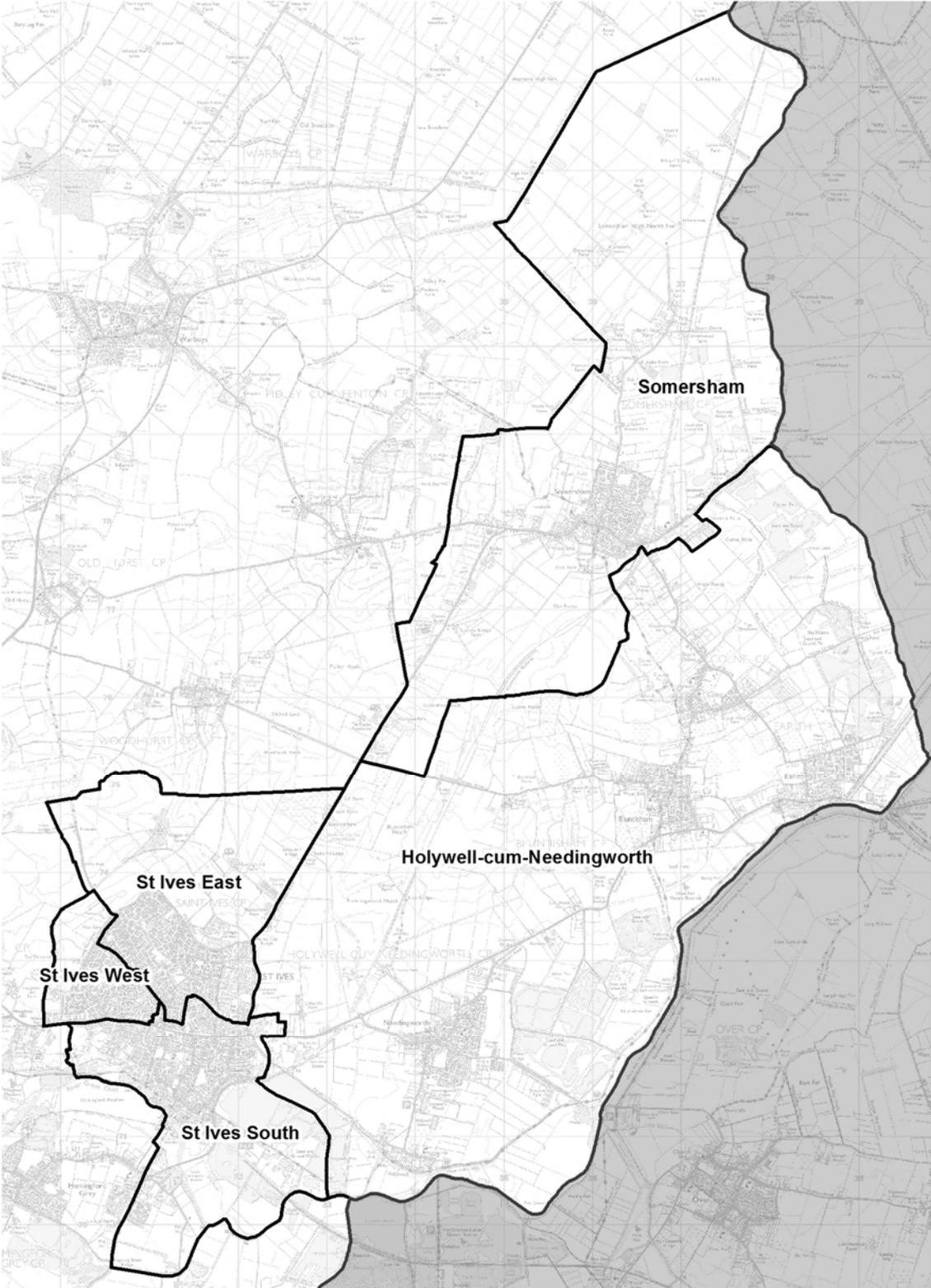
Huntingdon East, The Stukeleys

41 As the only submission received for this area was from Huntingdonshire District Council in support of the draft recommendations we propose that the draft recommendations for this area should be confirmed as final without amendment.

Huntingdon North

42 We received one submission proposing a minor alteration to the western boundary of our proposed Huntingdon North ward. As no rationale was supplied to support this we propose that the draft recommendations for this area should be confirmed as final without amendment.

St Ives and east Huntingdonshire



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021
Holywell-cum-Needingworth	2	-2%
Somersham	1	7%
St Ives East	2	-7%
St Ives South	2	5%
St Ives West	1	10%

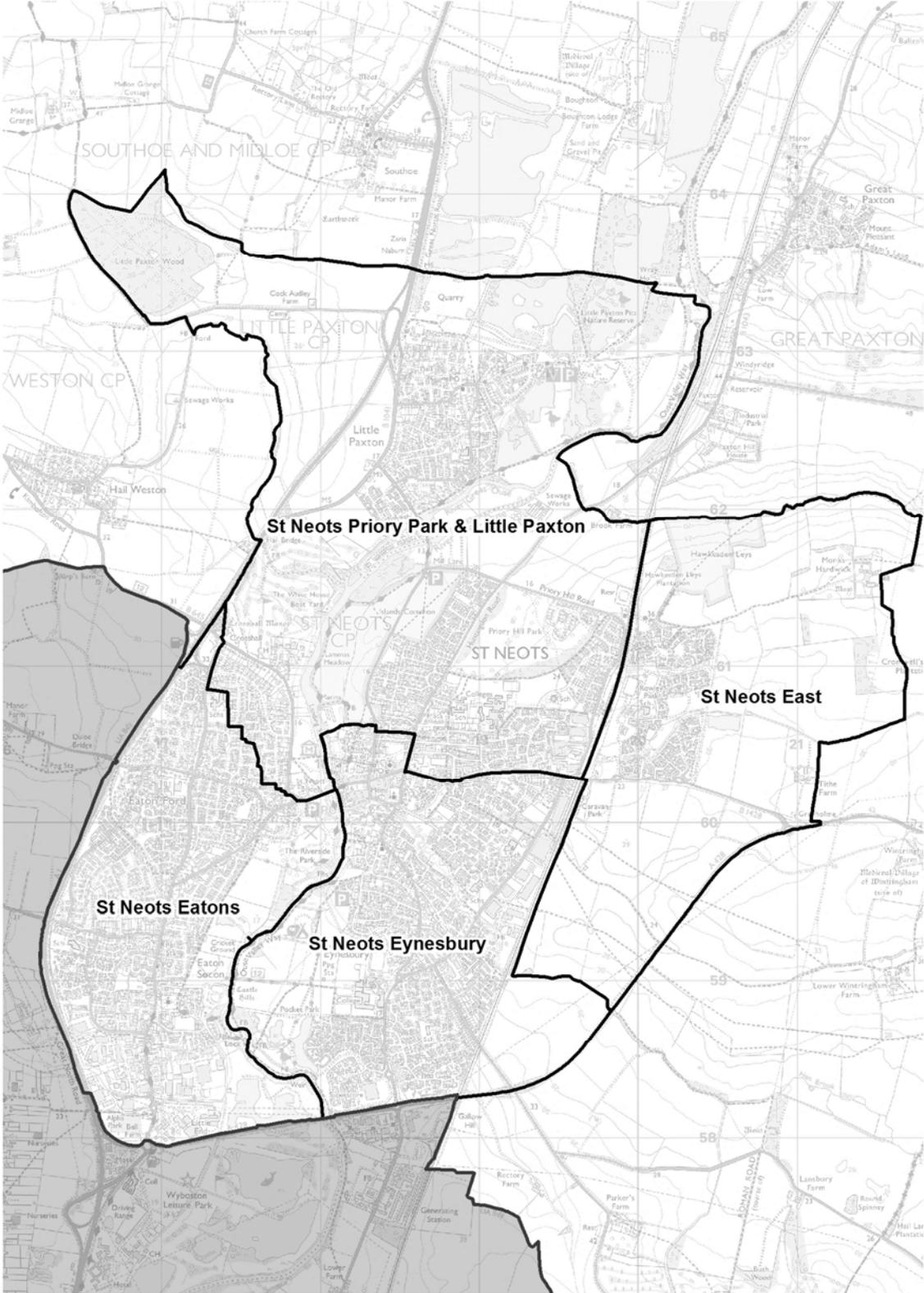
Holywell-cum-Needingworth, Somersham, St Ives East and St Ives South

43 As the only submission received for these areas was from Huntingdonshire District Council in support of the draft recommendations we propose that the draft recommendations for these wards should be confirmed as final without amendment.

St Ives West

44 St Ives Town Council requested the abolition of the Beech parish ward which was created as part of the boundary review for Cambridgeshire County Council. While both Beech and West parish wards sit wholly within our proposed St Ives West district ward, we will not be abolishing Beech ward as we consider it is important there is consistency between the parish warding arrangements and the division boundaries of the County Council.

St Neots and Little Paxton



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021
St Neots East	2	1%
St Neots Eatons	3	2%
St Neots Eynesbury	3	2%
St Neots Priory Park & Little Paxton	3	8%

45 We received seven submissions from this area, including an alternative pattern of wards from a district councillor and a submission relating to the whole area in addition to the district-wide submission from Huntingdonshire District Council. The submissions primarily related to the expansion of the Priory Park ward to include Little Paxton and part of Eaton Ford. Correspondents argued that the Priory Park ward should be entirely south and east of the River Great Ouse and north of Fox Brook.

St Neots East

46 The alternative warding pattern we received supported the boundaries of this ward but argued that it should be represented by one councillor on the grounds that the electorate forecast for this area was incorrect. This point has been dealt with earlier in the report and we propose that the draft recommendations for this area should be confirmed as final without amendment.

St Neots Eynesbury

47 The area-wide scheme we received from the district councillor proposed Eynesbury be split into three single-member wards but we do not feel that the evidence supplied justifies the very high level of electoral inequality that would result.

48 The district councillor also requested that the area north of Fox Brook be moved back into the Priory Park ward as the brook has been the historic division between Eynesbury and St Neots. The Commission's responsibility is to consider communities as they are now rather than throughout their history and, again, the evidence supplied did not justify the high level of electoral inequality – a variance of 18% – in Priory Park & Little Paxton ward that would result from amending our draft recommendations. We propose then that our draft recommendations should be confirmed as final without amendment.

St Neots Eatons

49 We received two submissions from members of the public as well as the two area-wide submissions, one on behalf of St Neots Town Council, requesting that the Eatons (Eaton Ford and Eaton Socon) be grouped together.

50 If ward boundaries remained unchanged the projected variances for two-member Eaton Ford and Eaton Socon wards would be -4% and -24% respectively, a total variance of -28% across both wards.

51 The alternative warding pattern proposed the retention of the existing Eaton Ford and Eaton Socon wards subject to an area between Great North Road and Monarch Road (three options were supplied) being moved from Eaton Ford to Eaton Socon to reduce electoral inequality. The first of these options would have meant a variance of -6% in Eaton Ford and -22% in Eaton Socon; the second option would have meant a variance of -11% in Eaton Ford and -17% in Eaton Socon; the final option would have meant a variance of -14% in both wards.

52 We considered all these options and accept both the desire of residents in the Eatons to have wards that reflect their communities and that the River Great Ouse is a strong natural boundary. However, we ultimately concluded that it was impossible to create a ward or wards solely within the Eatons area that would provide an

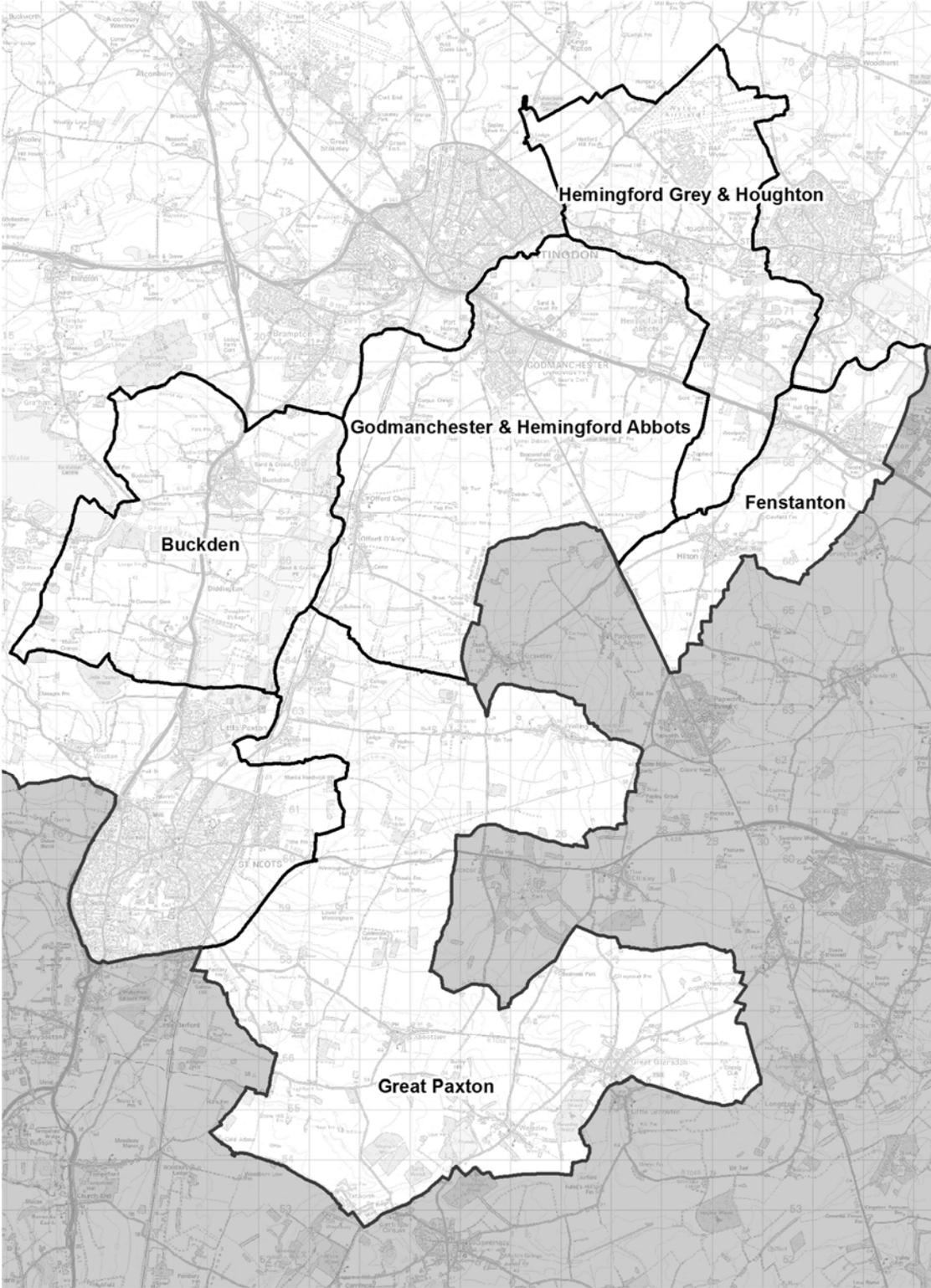
acceptable level of electoral equality and, in spite of the variance of -4% in Eaton Ford, part of it would need to be combined with an area east of the river because there is no road bridge in Eaton Socon as the district boundary is immediately to the north of the A428. We have therefore decided that our draft recommendations for the St Neots Eatons ward should be confirmed as final without amendment.

St Neots Priory Park & Little Paxton

53 In addition to the two area-wide submissions and the district-wide submission we received three objections to our proposed St Neots Priory Park ward from two district councillors and Little Paxton Parish Council. The objections primarily related to Little Paxton losing its identity by being joined with the larger area of St Neots. Little Paxton parish as a single-member ward would have an electoral variance of 23% and we do not consider that the evidence put forward was sufficient enough to justify this level of electoral inequality in the area.

54 One submission pointed out that Little Paxton had not been included in the name of its ward. Given that a substantial minority of electors in the ward will come from Little Paxton, we are proposing that the name be changed to St Neots Priory Park & Little Paxton. Subject to this amendment, we propose that our draft recommendations should be confirmed as final.

South Huntingdonshire



Ward name	Number of Cllrs	Variance 2021
Buckden	1	-7%
Fenstanton	1	10%
Godmanchester & Hemingford Abbots	3	-6%
Great Paxton	1	-8%
Hemingford Grey & Houghton	2	3%

Buckden, Fenstanton, Godmanchester & Hemingford Abbots, Hemingford Grey & Houghton

55 We received thirteen submissions objecting to our proposal to put Hemingford Abbots and Hemingford Grey in separate district wards, including from Houghton & Wyton, Hemingford Abbots and Hemingford Grey parish councils. The submissions argued that the two villages were known as "The Hemingfords" and had similar characteristics as well as sharing community, leisure and commercial facilities. Submissions also stated that Hemingford Abbots had no natural links with Godmanchester or Offord Cluny & Offord D'Arcy which are the other parishes in our proposed Godmanchester & Hemingford Abbots ward. Finally, it was argued that Godmanchester looked to Huntingdon as its closest large town while residents in the Hemingfords tended to use facilities in St Ives.

56 We received two submissions relating to Wyton on the Hill. One was supportive of the parish's proposed position in Hemingford Grey & Houghton ward; the other submission related to the development at RAF Wyton.

57 We received a submission from Offord Cluny & Offord D'Arcy Parish Council. This stated that there were no links between the Offords and Godmanchester, and that the Offords had a strong relationship with Buckden. Shared issues between the parishes would be dealt with most efficiently if both parishes were in the same district ward. We also noted the submission from Buckden Parish Council at the first stage of consultation that expressed a preference for its current ward boundaries to be maintained and this is what we proposed in our draft recommendations.

58 We have considered the warding pattern in this area in some detail and have considerable sympathy for the arguments put forward by local residents and Hemingford Abbots Parish Council in particular. However, we have concluded that the warding pattern set out in our draft recommendations is the one that aligns best with all our statutory criteria. In reaching our conclusions we are required to consider the implications for the entire district and regret that this may not be what residents or their representatives would like in specific areas.

59 We noted that a single-member ward consisting of both Hemingford Abbots and Hemingford Grey or a two-member ward consisting of Hemingford Abbots, Hemingford Grey, Hilton and Houghton & Wyton would provide for good electoral equality but there would be significant electoral variances in surrounding wards as a result. For example, in a single-member Hemingfords ward the variance would have been 5% but in a Houghton & Wyton & Wyton on the Hill ward it would have been 19%. Furthermore, a variance of -12% would be the result in a Godmanchester & the Offords ward. Even in seeking to reflect community identities these variances are, in our view, simply too high and will not ensure local people have a vote of broadly equal weight.

60 We considered simply adding Hemingford Abbots into the Hemingford Grey & Houghton ward but this would have led to a variance of 12% in the Hemingfords & Houghton and -12% in Godmanchester & the Offords. The Commission is not willing to accept this level of electoral inequality, particularly in adjoining wards.

61 We were also constrained by the two large towns nearby (Huntingdon and St Ives) and the district boundary to the south.

62 We considered combining Wyton on the Hill with parts of St Ives but did not consider this was appropriate as it would require the substantial re-warding of St Ives for which we had no evidence.

63 In relation to Huntingdon, in its submission to us on the ward boundaries Huntingdonshire District Council proposed that part of Huntingdon should be combined with Godmanchester and the Offords. But having visited the area, we concluded that it would be inappropriate to combine a very small part of a large town with two more rural parishes.

64 Finally, we considered a further alternative warding pattern that most closely reflected the submissions we received where Hemingford Abbots would be added to Hemingford Grey & Houghton as a two-member ward, the Offords would be added to Buckden as single-member ward and Godmanchester would remain on its own as a two-member ward. This would not only reduce the number of councillors in the district by one but would also lead to an electoral variance in Buckden of almost 30%. We do not feel that level of electoral inequality is acceptable.

65 As the only other submission received for this area was from Huntingdonshire District Council in support of the draft recommendations we propose that the ward boundaries in this part of south Huntingdonshire should be approved as final without amendment.

Great Paxton

66 As the only submission received for this area was from Huntingdonshire District Council in support of the draft recommendations we propose that the draft recommendations for this area should be confirmed as final without amendment.

Conclusions

67 The table below shows the impact of our final recommendations on electoral equality, based on 2015 and 2021 electorate figures.

Summary of electoral arrangements

	Final recommendations	
	2015	2021
Number of councillors	52	52
Number of electoral wards	26	26
Average number of electors per councillor	2,515	2,931
Number of wards with a variance more than 10% from the average	11	0
Number of wards with a variance more than 20% from the average	2	0

Final recommendation
 Huntingdonshire District Council should be made up of 52 councillors serving 26 wards representing eight single-member, ten two-member and eight three-member wards. The details and names are shown in Appendix A and illustrated on the large maps accompanying this report.

Mapping
Sheet 1, Map 1 shows the proposed wards for Huntingdonshire District Council. **You can also view our final recommendations for Huntingdonshire on our interactive maps at <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>**

Parish electoral arrangements

68 As part of an electoral review, we are required to have regard to the statutory criteria set out in Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (the 2009 Act). The Schedule provides that if a parish is to be divided between different wards it must also be divided into parish wards, so that each parish ward lies wholly within a single ward. We cannot recommend changes to the external boundaries of parishes as part of an electoral review.

69 Under the 2009 Act we only have the power to make changes to parish electoral arrangements where these are as a direct consequence of our recommendations for principal authority warding arrangements. However, Huntingdonshire District Council has powers under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 to conduct community governance reviews to effect changes to parish electoral arrangements.

70 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Fenstanton, Huntingdon, St Ives and St Neots parishes.

71 As result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Fenstanton parish.

Final recommendation

Fenstanton Parish Council should comprise 13 councillors, as at present, representing two wards: North (returning two members) and South (returning 11 members).

72 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Huntingdon parish.

Final recommendation

Huntingdon Town Council should comprise 19 councillors, as at present, representing eight wards: Central (returning two members), East (returning four members), Hinchibrooke Park (returning one member), North East (returning four members), South (returning one member), South West (returning one member), Stukeley Meadows (returning five members) and West (returning one member).

73 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for St Ives parish.

Final recommendation

St Ives Town Council should comprise 17 councillors, as at present, representing four wards: Beech (returning one member), North (returning six members), South (returning seven members) and West (returning three members).

74 As a result of our proposed ward boundaries and having regard to the statutory criteria set out in schedule 2 to the 2009 Act, we are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for St Neots parish.

Final recommendation

St Neots Town Council should comprise 21 councillors, as at present, representing eight wards: Church (returning one member), Crosshall (returning one member), East (returning four members), Eaton Ford (returning three members), Eaton Socon (returning three members), Eynesbury (returning five members), Priory Park (returning three members) and Priory Park South (returning one member).

3 What happens next?

75 We have now completed our review of Huntingdonshire. The recommendations must now be approved by Parliament. A draft Order – the legal document which brings into force our recommendations – will be laid in Parliament. Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements will come into force at the local elections in 2018.

Equalities

76 This report has been screened for impact on equalities, with due regard being given to the general equalities duties as set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. As no potential negative impacts were identified, a full equality impact analysis is not required.

Appendix A

Final recommendations for Huntingdonshire District Council

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
1 Alconbury	1	2,829	2,829	13%	2,920	2,920	0%
2 Brampton	2	4,691	2,346	-7%	6,019	3,010	3%
3 Buckden	1	2,649	2,649	5%	2,740	2,740	-7%
4 Fenstanton	1	2,964	2,964	18%	3,231	3,231	10%
5 Godmanchester & Hemingford Abbots	3	6,700	2,233	-11%	8,250	2,750	-6%
6 Great Paxton	1	2,613	2,613	4%	2,700	2,700	-8%
7 Great Staughton	1	2,666	2,666	6%	2,740	2,740	-7%
8 Hemingford Grey & Houghton	2	4,741	2,371	-6%	6,010	3,005	3%
9 Holywell-cum-Needingworth	2	5,591	2,796	11%	5,770	2,885	-2%
10 Huntingdon East	2	5,098	2,549	1%	5,785	2,893	-1%
11 Huntingdon North	3	7,666	2,555	2%	8,333	2,778	-5%
12 Kimbolton	1	2,625	2,625	4%	2,700	2,700	-8%

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
13 Ramsey	3	8,179	2,726	8%	8,850	2,950	1%
14 Sawtry	2	4,671	2,336	-7%	5,440	2,720	-7%
15 Somersham	1	2,945	2,945	17%	3,130	3,130	7%
16 St Ives East	2	5,307	2,654	6%	5,465	2,733	-7%
17 St Ives South	2	5,789	2,895	15%	6,139	3,070	5%
18 St Ives West	1	2,401	2,401	-5%	3,215	3,215	10%
19 St Neots East	2	2,056	1,028	-59%	5,940	2,970	1%
20 St Neots Eatons	3	8,687	2,896	15%	8,986	2,995	2%
21 St Neots Eynesbury	3	8,377	2,792	11%	8,978	2,993	2%
22 St Neots Priory Park & Little Paxton	3	8,087	2,696	7%	9,456	3,152	8%
23 Stilton, Folksworth & Washingley	2	5,263	2,632	5%	5,460	2,730	-7%
24 The Stukeleys	3	4,145	1,382	-45%	9,183	3,061	4%
25 Warboys	2	5,538	2,769	10%	6,040	3,020	3%
26 Yaxley	3	8,479	2,826	12%	8,940	2,980	2%

Ward name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2015)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %	Electorate (2021)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average %
	52	130,757	-	-	152,420	-	-
Averages	-	-	2,515	-	-	2,931	-

Source: Electorate figures are based on information provided by Huntingdonshire District Council.

Note: The 'variance from average' column shows by how far, in percentage terms, the number of electors per councillor in each electoral ward varies from the average for the borough. The minus symbol (-) denotes a lower than average number of electors. Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Appendix B

Outline map



A more detailed version of this map can be seen on the A1 sheet accompanying this report, or on our website <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/eastern/cambridgeshire/huntingdonshire>

Appendix C

Submissions received

All submissions received can also be viewed on our website at

<http://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/eastern/cambridgeshire/huntingdonshire>

Local Authority

- Huntingdonshire District Council

Councillors

- Councillor B. Chapman (Cambridgeshire County Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and St Neots Town Council) for St Neots Town Council
- Councillor D. Giles (Cambridgeshire County Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and St Neots Town Council)
- Councillor D. Harty (Huntingdonshire District Council)
- Councillor A. Jones (Hemingford Abbots Parish Council)
- Councillor T. Sanderson (Huntingdonshire District Council) (two submissions)
- Councillor L. Swain (Huntingdonshire District Council)

Parish and Town Councils

- Great Staughton Parish Council
- Hemingford Abbots Parish Council
- Hemingford Grey Parish Council
- Holme Parish Council
- Houghton & Wyton Parish Council
- Little Paxton Parish Council
- Offord Cluny & Offord D'Arcy Parish Council
- Stilton Parish Council
- St Ives Town Council
- Warboys Parish Council

Local Residents

- Seventeen local residents

Appendix D

Glossary and abbreviations

Council size	The number of councillors elected to serve on a council
Electoral Change Order (or Order)	A legal document which implements changes to the electoral arrangements of a local authority
Division	A specific area of a county, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever division they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the county council
Electoral fairness	When one elector's vote is worth the same as another's
Electoral inequality	Where there is a difference between the number of electors represented by a councillor and the average for the local authority
Electorate	People in the authority who are registered to vote in elections. For the purposes of this report, we refer specifically to the electorate for local government elections
Number of electors per councillor	The total number of electors in a local authority divided by the number of councillors
Over-represented	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average

Parish	A specific and defined area of land within a single local authority enclosed within a parish boundary. There are over 10,000 parishes in England, which provide the first tier of representation to their local residents
Parish council	A body elected by electors in the parish which serves and represents the area defined by the parish boundaries. See also 'Town council'
Parish (or Town) council electoral arrangements	The total number of councillors on any one parish or town council; the number, names and boundaries of parish wards; and the number of councillors for each ward
Parish ward	A particular area of a parish, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors vote in whichever parish ward they live for candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the parish council
Town council	A parish council which has been given ceremonial 'town' status. More information on achieving such status can be found at www.nalc.gov.uk
Under-represented	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward or division than the average
Variance (or electoral variance)	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward or division varies in percentage terms from the average

Ward	A specific area of a district or borough, defined for electoral, administrative and representational purposes. Eligible electors can vote in whichever ward they are registered for the candidate or candidates they wish to represent them on the district or borough council
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